FREE PRINTABLE FOR FAMILIES

Pet Care Planner

What your pet needs every day, every week and every few months, on one page you can stick on the fridge. Pair it with phone reminders from childhoodpets.com/free-printables/pet-care-planner/.

Dog · Cat · Guinea Pig · Hamster · Cockatiel · Budgie · Finch · Leopard Gecko · Bearded Dragon · Chinchilla · Fish

How to use it

1. **Print your pet's page.**
   Put it on the fridge or near the cage, tank or food bin.
2. **Fill in the top.**
   Your pet's name, your vet's phone number and the nearest emergency vet.
3. **Share out the jobs.**
   "Kids can help" jobs suit children with a grown-up checking. "Grown-up" jobs need an adult.
4. **Tick and date it.**
   Tick a box for each week's jobs, and write the date when you do the monthly and yearly ones.

Reading the planner

Kids can help A child can do it, or help, with a grown-up checking it really got done.

Grown-up Medicines, nail trims, deep cleans, vet visits and anything with heat, chemicals or handling risks.

Weekly How often. Numbers like [3] point to the sources below. A dagger (†) means no source gives a fixed interval, so we give a common starting point.

Sources

1. Merck Veterinary Manual: Routine Care of Guinea Pigs
2. Merck Veterinary Manual: Providing a Home for a Hamster
3. Merck Veterinary Manual: Routine Health Care of Hamsters
4. Merck Veterinary Manual: Chinchilla Care Checklist
5. Merck Veterinary Manual: Importance of Veterinary Care in Pet Birds
6. Merck Veterinary Manual: Routine Health Care of Fish
7. Merck Veterinary Manual: Providing a Home for Fish
8. VCA Animal Hospitals: Leopard Geckos, Care and Feeding
9. VCA Animal Hospitals: Bearded Dragons, Feeding
10. AAHA-AVMA Canine Preventive Healthcare Guidelines
11. 2021 AAHA/AAFP Feline Life Stage Guidelines
12. AVMA: Pet Dental Care
13. CDC: Reptiles and Amphibians (Healthy Pets)
14. CDC: Cats (Healthy Pets)

Links to every source: childhoodpets.com/free-printables/pet-care-planner/#sources

A grown-up stays responsible
Kids can take on real jobs, but a pet's food, water, health and safety are always an adult's job. Check every day that the care really happened.

Not veterinary advice
General information for healthy pets; not reviewed by a vet. Young, older or unwell pets often need a different routine. Ask your vet, and for small pets, birds, reptiles and fish, one who treats exotic pets.

Cat Care Planner

Daily, weekly and monthly cat care at a glance

Childhood Pets.com

Pet's name _____ Vet & phone _____ Emergency vet _____

Every day

Fresh water†

Rinse and refill the bowl or fountain

Daily · Kids can help

Meals†

Measured meals, often split into two or more a day

Twice daily · Kids can help

Scoop the litter box [14]

Daily scooping also lowers toxoplasmosis risk. Wash hands after

Daily · Kids can help

Play time†

Wand toys or chase games; put strings away after

Daily · Kids can help

Brush teeth†

Cat toothpaste only, if your cat accepts it. Ask your vet how to start

Daily · Grown-up

Each week

Brush the coat†

Long-haired cats need it more often

Weekly · Kids can help

Wk ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Every few weeks

Empty, wash and refill the litter box†

With clumping litter; more often for other litters

Every 2 weeks · Grown-up

Last done _____

Claw trim†

Front claws usually grow fastest

Every 2 weeks · Grown-up

Last done _____

Parasite prevention [11]

As your vet prescribes; guidelines favor year-round protection

Monthly · Grown-up

Last done _____

Twice a year & yearly

Wellness checkup [11] [12]

At least yearly for kittens and adults; every 6 months for cats over 10. Includes a teeth check

Yearly · Grown-up

Last done _____

Notes from our vet

For grown-ups

- Anyone who is pregnant should not scoop litter (CDC).
- A cat that hides, stops eating or strains in the litter box needs a vet the same day.
- A grown-up stays responsible for food, water, health and safety. If your pet seems unwell, call a vet.

Dates to remember

Next checkup _____

Meds / vaccines _____

Weight _____